

Top Secret



Watch Committee

Watch Report

DRAFT—Submitted for USIB Approval

NIC MASTERS

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Meeting No. 1276
5 February 75
Copy No. 3

NSA reviews completed

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Approved For Release 2003/06/06 : CIA-RDP93T01468R000100040011-3

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WATCH COMMITTEE DRAFT WATCH REPORT
OF THE
UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

No. 1276

6
7 February 1975
(as of 0830 EST)

The Committee concludes that there will be
no military attack on the United States or
its overseas forces in the near future.

Subjects of immediate concern are discussed
below.

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I. Middle East

Although a renewal of large-scale fighting in the Middle East could occur with little warning, we believe that neither the Arabs nor the Israelis will initiate hostilities in the immediate future. Both sides apparently remain willing for the present to continue diplomatic efforts to reach some accommodation. Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko's trip to the Middle East is not expected to reconcile Soviet-Egyptian differences significantly or to result in major new Soviet arms aid.

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IV. Southeast Asia

2. South Vietnamese armed forces have been placed on alert in anticipation of increased Communist attacks during the upcoming Tet holiday, which begins on 11 February. While we expect localized heavy fighting to resume soon, there are no indications of Communist plans for an all-out offensive in the near future.

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3. In Cambodia, Communist forces are trying to launch a second round of attacks in the capital area, and increased shelling of Phnom Penh and Pochentong airfield is expected. We believe that recent Communist employment of mines in the Mekong poses a significant threat to river convoys. Unless some way is found to neutralize these mines, or clear the banks, government efforts to keep the Mekong open will likely fail.

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